

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 01003 210222Z
ACTION IO-14

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E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: AORG, ABUD, MARR
SUBJECT: UN FINANCES: AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES FOR UNIFIL

1. UN OFFICIALS FORESEE NO SPECIAL PROCEDURAL DIFFICULTIES
IN CONVENING A SPECIAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION TO ADOPT
A BUDGET FOR UNIFIL AND DETERMINE APPORTIONMENT OF COSTS
AMONG MEMBER STATES. PARAGRAPH 3 OF UNGA RESOLUTION
32/214, CITED IN AMBASSADOR LEONARD'S EXPLANATION OF VOTE
ON UNSC RESOLUTION 426, STATES THAT WHEN AUTHORIZATION
TO COMMIT MORE THAN \$10 MILLION FOR A PEACE AND SECURITY
OPERATION IS REQUIRED - "...A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL BE CONVENED BY THE SECRETARY
GENERAL TO CONSIDER THE MATTER."

2. UNGA GENERAL LEGAL DIVISION CHIEF SLOAN TOLD USUN
MARCH 20 THAT IN HIS OPINION THE SYG HAS "NOT ONLY THE
RIGHT BUT ALSO THE RESPONSIBILITY" TO ISSUE A CALL FOR
A SPECIAL GA SESSION TO ARRANGE UNIFIL FINANCING.
DIVISION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY AFFAIRS DIRECTOR (GAZARIAN)
ADDS THAT 32/214 GIVES SYG SUFFICIENT AUTHORITY TO SET
DATE, WITHOUT FURTHER CONSULTING MEMBERSHIP,
THOUGH REQUIRED GROUP CHAIRMEN PROBABLY WOULD BE CONTACTED
FIRST. GAZARIAN SAYS THAT 32ND GA PRESIDENT MOJSOV,
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PAGE 02 USUN N 01003 210222Z

NOW VISITING NEW YORK, AGREES WITH THIS POSITION.

3. UNDER THIS PROCEDURE SYG WOULD SET DATE AND ISSUE
AGENDA. GA WOULD MEET, RE-ELECT OFFICERS OF 32ND GA
AND ALLOCATE UNIFIL FINANCING QUESTION DIRECTLY TO FIFTH
COMMITTEE, WHICH, IN TURN, WOULD RE-ELECT ITS BUREAU FROM
32ND GA. SINCE BUREAU AT FIFTH COMMITTEE AT 32ND GA

(IRAN, FRG, VENEZUELA, BYELORUSSIA) WAS COMPOSED ENTIRELY OF MEMBERS OF NEW YORK MISSIONS, RECONSTITUTING IT FOR SPECIAL SESSION WOULD CAUSE NO PROBLEM AND PROBABLY WOULD BE REGARDED AS MOST CONVENIENT ARRANGEMENT. CHAIRMAN (TALIEH) AND VICE CHAIRMAN (SCHMIDT) BOTH ARE MEMBERS OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE - A FURTHER ADVANTAGE TO BUSINESSLIKE HANDLING OF THE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS. FIFTH COMMITTEE SECRETARY (ANVAR) AGREES WITH FOREGOING ANALYSIS AND FORESEES NO SPECIAL PROBLEMS.

4. SECRETARIAT IS CONSIDERING APRIL 17 AS FEASIBLE DATE UPON WHICH TO CONVENE SPECIAL SESSION. SOME SAVINGS WILL ACCRUE FROM SCHEDULING IT SHORTLY BEFORE NAMIBIA SPECIAL SESSION. THIS WOULD ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO PUT FIRM ESTIMATES TOGETHER AND CONDUCT REQUIRED ACABQ REVIEW IN ADVANCE OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S DEPARTURE FOR ALREADY SCHEDULED SPRING SESSIONS IN GENEVA AND BANGKOK.

5. SPECIAL SESSION WILL HAVE TO DETERMINE ON WHAT BASIS MEMBERS SHALL BE ASSESSED FOR COSTS OF UNIFIL. IF UNEF/UNDOF SCALE IS GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE - AND THERE HAVE BEEN SO FAR NO INDICATIONS TO THE CONTRARY - PROCESS OF ADOPTION SHOULD BE RETARDED ONLY BY TIME REQUIRED FOR RITUAL RHETORIC. IF SOME DIFFERENT SCALE IS PROPOSED, ADOPTION COULD BECOME A PROTRACTED AFFAIR. ADOPTION OF BUDGET AND CONCURRENT AUTHORIZATION OF EXPENDITURES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 USUN N 01003 210222Z

SHOULD NOT BE UNDULY TROUBLESOME SO LONG AS UNHAPPINESS OF SOME UNEF/UNDOF TROOP CONTRIBUTORS OVER REIMBURSEMENT RATE FOR THEIR TROOPS IS NOT STIMULATED, BUT THERE IS NO SIGN AT SUCH A PROBLEM NOW.

6. PENDING GA ACTION, UNSYG HAS IMMEDIATE AUTHORITY UNDER PARAGRAPH L(A) OF 32/214 TO COMMIT UP TO TWO MILLION DOLLARS FOR UNIFIL COSTS. UPON OBTAINING CONCURRENCE OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SYG CAN COMMIT AN ADDITIONAL EIGHT MILLION TO MEET UNIFIL COSTS. CONTROLLER'S OFFICE (ZIEHL) MARCH 20 ISSUED PAPERS NECESSARY FOR SYG TO EXERCISE ALL REQUIRED AUTHORITY UNDER 32/214 AND TO MAKE SUCH FINANCIAL DISPOSITIONS AS ARE NECESSARY TO MEET CASH REQUIREMENTS UNTIL SPECIAL SESSION CAN MEET AND ACT. CONTROLLER HAS NOT INDICATED TO USUN THAT US NEED CONSIDER ANY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION BEYOND THAT PROMISED BY AMBASSADOR LEONARD IN EXPLANATION OF VOTE ON SC RESOLUTION 426. UN'S ABILITY TO MEET UNIFIL CASH REQUIREMENTS OBVIOUSLY WILL BE EASED IF US ASSESSMENT PAYMENT DUE APRIL 1 IS TRANSMITTED PROMPTLY, AND ADVANCE TRANSMITTAL OF OUR JULY 1ST PAYMENT WOULD HELP FURTHER, THOUGH THIS HAS NOT BEEN REQUESTED

AS YET.

7. IT THUS APPEARS THAT UN CAN MANAGE THE ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS OF UNIFIL OVER THE SHORT TERM WITHOUT EXTRAORDINARY DIFFICULTY. SHOULD THERE BE SIGNIFICANT WITHHOLDINGS BY MEMBER STATES OF PAYMENTS ASSESSED FOR THIS OPERATION, UN'S LONG TERM FINANCIAL POSITION WILL WORSEN.

8. FIRST LINE PARA TWO SHOULD READ UN GENERAL LEGAL DIVISION DEPUTY DIRECTOR SCOTT TOLD USUN LEONARD

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